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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
 INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT
 WRITTEN OPINION
 (PCT Rule 66)

To: Lawrence Y D HO Ass Pte Ltd 30 Bideford Road #07-01 Thongsia Building Singapore 229922			Date of mailing (day/month/year) 16 APR 2004
Applicant's or agent's file reference 1237.P002PCT		REPLY DUE within TWO MONTHS from the above date of mailing	
International Application No. PCT/SG2003/000076	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 11 April 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year) 12 September 2002	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ E06B 3/70, 3/96			
Applicant MALAYSIA WOODWORKING (PTE) LTD et al.			DOCKETED (inv) duetdret

- This written opinion is the **first** drawn by this International Preliminary Examining Authority.
- This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:
 - ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - ☐ Priority
 - ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - ☐ Certain documents cited
 - ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - ☐ Certain observations on the international application
- The **FINAL DATE** by which the international preliminary examination report must be established according to Rule 69.2 is:
12 January 2005
- The applicant is hereby invited to reply to this opinion.

When? See the Reply Due date indicated above. However, the Australian Patent Office will not establish the Report before the earlier of (i) a response being filed, or (ii) one month before the Final Date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established. The Report will take into account any response (including amendments) filed before the Report is established.

If no response is filed by 1 month before the Final Date, the international preliminary examination report will be established on the basis of this opinion.

Applicants wishing to have the benefit of a further opinion (if needed) before the report is established should ensure that a response is filed at least 3 months before the Final Date by which the international preliminary examination report must be established.

How? By submitting a written reply, accompanied, where appropriate, by amendments, according to Rule 66.3.
For the form and the language of the amendments, see Rules 66.8 and 66.9.

Also For an additional opportunity to submit amendments, see Rule 66.4.
For the examiner's obligation to consider amendments and/or arguments, see Rule 66.4bis.
For an informal communication with the examiner, see Rule 66.6.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer L. DESECAR Telephone No. (02) 6283 2381
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WRITTEN OPINION

International application No.

PCT/SG2003/000076

I. Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☐ the description, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages , as amended under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the drawings, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the written opinion was drawn on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.

5. This opinion has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

** Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed"*

WRITTEN OPINION

International application No.

PCT/SG2003/000076

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 3, 4-24	YES
	Claims 1-2, 3A	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 3, 6-24	YES
	Claims 1-2, 3A, 4-5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-24	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations

NOVELTY (N) Claims 1-2, 3A:

- (a) GB 2254872 A 1-2
- (b) FR 2713693 A 1-2
- (c) BE 843260 A 1, 3A

Each of the above documents also cited in the international search report disclose all of the features of the claims identified alongside.

Claim 1:

For example document (a) see page 4 line 5 to page 7 line 25, Figures 1-11, wherein it clearly discloses a method for assembling a 2-piece skin door involving the features as defined and in particular a bottom skin (14), a top skin (13) folded to complementarily hem each other in an interlocking manner to form a seam (15, 16, 21, 22).

Claims 2:

The additional features introduced by these claims are similarly disclosed in the document (a) for example:

- the top skin's edges are bent downwardly. see page 4 lines 7-11 Figure 1 items 15, 16 less than the full thickness of the door edge.

Claim 3A:

The additional features introduced by this claim are disclosed in the document (c) for example:

- interlocking seams are provided at diagonally-opposing edges of the assembled door. see page 3 at 3rd paragraph Figure items 1a, 2a and 1b, 2b respectively

INVENTIVE STEP (IS) Claims 1-2, 3A, 4-5:

Claims 1-2, 3A: As above.

Claims 4-5:

The additional features introduced by these claims merely amount to common general knowledge hence do not involve an inventive step.

Subject: Response to Written Opinion; PCT/SG2003/000076
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24 May 2004

L Desecar Australian Patent Office P O Box 200 Woden, ACT 2606 AUSTRALIA	By Facsimile and Email (02) 6285-3929 12 Pages Total pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au
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Dear sir

Re: PCT Application PCT/SG2003/000076
Title: Method and Apparatus for Assembling a 2-Piece Skin Door
Applicant: Malaysia Woodworking (Pte) Ltd
Our Ref: 1237.P002PCT

Thank you for your written opinion dated 16 April 2004.

To meet the novelty and inventive requirements, we have amended the claims as follows:
Old Claims 1, 2 and 3 have been combined into new Claim 1 to take advantage of the novel and inventive feature of old Claim 3.
Old Claim 3A has been deleted.
Old Claims 4, 5 and 6 have been combined into new Claim 2.
The remaining claims and their dependencies have been renumbered accordingly. These amendments add no new matter to the application.

Both the marked amended claim set and the original claim set as filed are attached.

We trust that you will find these amendments to be acceptable and we look forward to a positive second opinion. However, should it be necessary, we would like to make further amendments or to present other arguments in response to subsequent opinions.

Yours sincerely
LAWRENCE YD HO & ASSOCIATES PTE LTD

Kay-Min Chan